

## **Montana Shared Catalog Executive Board Nominees, Spring 2016 Election**

### **Nominee for Special Libraries**

#### **Roberta Gebhardt – Library Manager, Montana Historical Society Research Center Library**

I received my English Education degree with a minor in School libraries in 1994. That minor helped me to secure my first Library job at Montana Tech in 1995 where I worked in circulation and Inter Library Loans. After moving to Helena, I began working at the MSL Talking Book Library in 1997. I moved to the MSL Information Services Department in 2000 and spent the next 6 years cataloging state documents. I received my MLS in Library Science from the University of North Texas in 2006. I became the Technical Services Librarian at the Montana Historical Society Research Center in 2006. I served on the MSC Executive Committee from 2007-2010. I became the MHS Research Center Library Manager in 2015.

### **Nominee for Academic Libraries**

#### **Sinda Puryer – Circulation and Inter-Library Loan, Flathead Valley Community College Library**

I have had the pleasure of working in libraries since I was in high school! I have had other jobs, but they were never as fun as working in a library! I worked at the Flathead County Library at the circulation desk for 14 years and have had the great pleasure working with Flathead Valley Community College Library for the last 25 years.

It's been a great learning experience and a privilege working with the MSC Executive Board. I would encourage everybody to participate in this process.

Thank you for letting me serve one more year as your representative.

## **Nominee for Eastern-at-Large**

### **Kelly Reisig – Director, Sidney-Richland County Library**

I would like to submit my name for consideration as the Eastern at Large Representative for the Montana Shared Catalog. The Montana Shared Catalog provides a tremendous benefit for libraries such as ours that serve a significant population size and struggle with ever-tightening budgets. As a result of this highly effective mechanism for leverage of funds, our libraries can provide a higher value experience for every library patron.

I have a Bachelor of Science in History and a Master in Business Administration with a dual specialization in Human Resources and Nonprofit Management.

I began my service with the Sidney-Richland County Library in 2015, and I am truly honored to have the role. It is a culmination of my own work and career experience. My first work after college involved service for the AmeriCorps Nebraska Reads Program. I have had over 10 years of experience in public relations, including service as the public relations director for a community action agency, a school district in Nebraska and a school district in Alaska. I have also worked as a Head Start and Migrant/Seasonal Head Start teacher.

I would be honored to represent the eastern library community on the Montana Shared Catalog Board of Directors. I enjoy connecting with my colleagues and I truly believe that it is our network of libraries throughout the state that makes Montana stand out among the others. Thank you for your consideration.

## **Nominee for Western-at-Large**

### **Jack Albrecht – Director, Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library**

Jack was born into a military family, his father having served in the Army for thirty years. Jack and his two siblings learned early on the importance of embracing change. They learned to be resilient, open to travel, to new places, people, and experiences.

Those early lessons have been beneficial in Jack's current profession, since libraries and librarianship are in a constant state of flux and reinvention. He earned his BA in Humanities from San Diego State University and his Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Arizona in Tucson. Before moving to Montana, he worked as a manager for various branches of San Diego Public Library.

Jack has served as director for the Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library since May 2013. He enjoys working in a small rural library at a job that allows him to wear many different hats and to tap into his versatile Army Brat heritage.

## **Nominee for Medium Public Libraries**

### **Mark Wetherington – Director, Bitterroot Public Library**

I have greatly appreciated having the privilege to serve by filling an unexpired term as the representative for Medium Public Libraries on the Montana Shared Catalog Executive Board. Upon my arrival at the Bitterroot Public Library in 2014, I was immediately struck by how valuable, efficient and high-quality the services provided by the MSC are to our patrons and staff. I have enjoyed serving on the MSC Executive Board and have done my best to make informed decisions as a board member and attempt to increase the quality of communication between the MSC Board and the constituency which I represent. I would be honored to continue to serve as representative for Medium Public Libraries and sincerely hope that I will be elected to do so.

## **Nominee for K-8 School Libraries**

### **Debra Westrom – Librarian, Hellgate Intermediate School (grades 3-5)**

I grew up in suburbia Boston and attended the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont. Besides studying to be a teacher, I learned Spanish and spent a semester in Granada, Spain. I have traveled to 18 countries. I taught middle school classes in Williamstown, VT, Kuwait City, Kuwait, Florence, MT, and finally Hellgate Elementary in Missoula. I have my Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Montana. I began teaching sixth grade at Hellgate in 1997 and moved to my current position as the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade library media specialist in 2011. I am a leader in the Hellgate Elementary Education Association and a member of ALA/ASLA, MEA/MFT/NEA.

My husband, Jeff, is a teacher at Frenchtown High School. We have two teenage boys.

## **Nominee for HS/District School Libraries**

### **Diane Anderson – Catalog and Systems Specialist Missoula County Public Schools**

It has been a privilege to serve as the MSC Upper School Representative on the MSC Board of Directors. I began my career in the library field as a student aide in junior high and my passion for books led me to certification as a School Librarian in 1975. My “official career” began at Glasgow Junior High School followed by two years at Simms High School in Simms, Montana. My family briefly moved to Georgia and when I returned to Montana I spent a few years working for a Montana-based restaurant chain, a wonderful place to work, but leapt at the chance to rejoin the library community. I began as a Media Assistant at Big Sky High School from 1990 to 1999 until I accepted my current position. I have been privileged to work as the Catalog and System Specialist for Missoula County Public Schools since 1999 and had never expected to serve on a board or major committee in any capacity, yet here I am.

The MSC Executive Board has been a labor of love. I do not have all the answers, may never be an expert on parliamentary procedure but I have had the privilege to work with other amazing MSC Board members while learning more about their incredible work in large and small communities. The ability to meet on-line has made this journey more manageable, although I really enjoyed the MSC Meeting in Miles City several years ago... what great hosts!

I hope you will accord me the honor of serving “one more year” to bring the election cycle back into synch and I promise to continue to listen and respond to any concerns you may have.